

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Youhei SAKAI

Serial No: Not Assigned

Filed: September 29, 2006

For: Silicon Casting Apparatus and  
Method of Producing Silicon Ingot

Art Unit: Not Assigned

Examiner: Not Assigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to the first Office Action in the present application, please enter and consider the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments** to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 11 of this paper.